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ABSTRACT

Historical studies of public libraries are important because they provide insight into the development of these institutions and serve as an aid to future researchers. This paper examines the development of the Tuscarawas County Public Library (TCPL), in Ohio, for the years 1937-60, in order to discover how the library's building, budget, holdings, circulation, staff, and services were affected by such factors as: (1) the TCPL's various directors; (2) the opening of a new facility in 1937; (3) the expansion of extensive services; (4) World War II; (5) post-war fiscal problems; (6) the Korean War; and (7) competitive interests such as television. A schedule of interview questions is included in the appendices. (Contains 23 references.) (Author/JLB)

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A HISTORY OF THE TUSCARAWAS COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY 1937-1960

A Master's Research Paper submitted to the
Kent State University School of Library Science
in partial fulfillment of the requirements
for the degree Master of Library Science

by

Debra A. Tristano

November, 1990

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ABSTRACT

Historical studies of public libraries are important because they provide insight into the development of these institutions, and serve as an aid to future researchers. This paper examines the development of the Tuscarawas County Public Library (TCPL), in Ohio, for the years 1937-1960, in order to discover how the library's building, budget, holdings, circulation, staff, and services were affected by such factors as (1) the TCPL's various directors; (2) the opening of a new facility in 1937; (3) the expansion of extension services; (4) World War II; (5) post-war fiscal problems; (6) the Korean War; and (7) competitive interests, e.g., television.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION, METHODOLOGY, AND REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

Introduction

Historical studies of public libraries are important because they provide insight into the development of these institutions, and serve as an aid to future researchers. This paper examines the development of the Tuscarawas County Public Library (TCPL), in Ohio, for the years 1937-1960, in order to discover how the library's building, budget, holdings, circulation, staff, and services were affected by such factors as (1) the TCPL's various directors; (2) the opening of a new facility in 1937; (3) the expansion of extension services; (4) World War II; (5) post-war fiscal problems; (6) the Korean War; and (7) competitive interests, e.g., television.

TCPL began in 1901 as a subscription collection for the use of seven of New Philadelphia, Ohio's ladies clubs. When first created it held less than seventy volumes,[1] but the library soon experienced considerable growth. Helen Hoover served as library director from 1909-1922, and under her leadership the library's holdings and circulation, which stood at 2,058 and 25,461 respectively in 1909, increased to 8,610 and 76,667 respectively by 1922.[2] In addition, Miss Hoover was committed to the erection of a permanent library building, and in 1915 worked successfully for the passage of a $7,500 bond issue which was used to purchase the land for this project.[3]

During the 1920s, the library reflected the prosperity of the country by posting yearly increases in its budget, holdings, circulation, and number of registered borrowers. In fact, during this decade, its circulation and holdings more than doubled, and its budget increased from $3,696.31 in 1920 to $14,157.94 in 1929.[4] In addition, throughout the twenties, the library developed services to youth by instituting (1) classroom collections in the city's schools, (2) a young adult collection at the main library, (3) orientation classes for senior high students, (4) pre-school story hours, and (5) summer reading clubs.[5]

Throughout the 1930s and the Great Depression, the library continued to post increases in its budget, circulation, number of registered borrowers, and holdings. This may be explained by the fact that (1) public libraries are needed during periods of economic strife by those wishing to learn a new trade or job changing techniques, and those who cannot afford to purchase books or engage in more costly forms of recreation; (2) in 1934, the library opened its services to the entire county in order to qualify for intangibles tax funding; and (3) federal work relief programs provided the library with several employees it may not have otherwise been able to afford, thereby, enabling it to run more efficiently.[6] In addition, during this period, Helen Hoover, now Helen Olmstead, was reappointed library director,[7] and because she successfully led an effort for the passage of a $12,000 bond issue for the construction of a library building in 1934,[8] and was awarded a $25,781 federal government construction grant in 1935,[9] the library was

able to erect a new permanent library building.

The Tuscarawas County Library Extension Service (TCLES) was an independent library created by the State Library of Ohio on July 1, 1936.[10] Its purpose was to provide library books and services to outlying areas of Tuscarawas County, and it was placed under the supervision of the main library's board of trustees, and an advisory board composed of one member from each of the seven library boards in the county.[11] The TCLES was originally housed in a vacant storeroom at 161 North Broadway in New Philadelphia.[12] However, by the time it moved its staff and operations to the basement of the newly completed main library building in December of 1936, this library had created its first branch at Strasburg, Ohio, and developed five deposit collections in rural areas of the county.[13] Because (1) the staff and services of the TCLES were closely affiliated with New Philadelphia's main library during the period in question, i.e., 1937-1947, and (2) the TCLES contributed much to the growth of the main library after it was absorbed by this institution as the Extension Department in 1948, the development of the TCLES will also be discussed.[14]

Today, the TCPL has holdings in excess of 120,000, and serves a largely rural population of more than 89,000 through its main library, four branches, and bookmobile.[15] In 1989, the library had 27,302 registered borrowers, and a combined circulation (i.e., for the main library, its four branches, and bookmobile) of 501,877.[16] This paper will examine the important transition period in the

development of the TCPL, i.e., 1937-1960.

Methodology

The historical method was used in this study, and the following sources were consulted: (1) board minutes and monthly and annual reports of the TCPL and TCLES, (2) library correspondence, (3) local newspapers, (4) A History of the New Philadelphia--Tuscarawas County (Ohio) District Library, by Charlotte J. Eckert, and (5) Encyclopedia Americana. In addition, two former directors of the library were interviewed. A copy of the interview schedule used in these meetings comprises APPENDIX E of this paper.

Literature Review

In order to discover previously written histories of the TCPL, and ensure that there would be no duplication between them and the study that was undertaken by the author, the following sources were consulted: (1) Library Literature 1921-1989; (2) Library Science Abstracts 1950-1968; (3) Library and Information Science Abstracts 1969-1989; (4) Local History: Our Unique Heritage, a 1972 bibliography of local histories held by libraries in Tuscarawas, Coshocton, Holmes, and Harrison counties; and (5) the local history collection of the TCPL.

Although this literature search revealed that several histories of Tuscarawas County were written after the library's founding, only Guide to Tuscarawas County, a travel guide compiled by the Federal Writers Project of the Ohio Work Projects Administration

in 1939, mentioned the library. However, this work only provided information on the library's location and hours of operation.

The only history of the TCPL located was a 1955 Master's thesis by Charlotte J. Eckert of the Western Reserve University School of Library Science. In her study, Ms. Eckert discussed the progression of the library from its inception in 1901 until the opening of its current facility in 1937. Thus, there is no significant overlap with the present study.

CHAPTER 2

THE NEW PHILADELPHIA SCHOOL DISTRICT PUBLIC LIBRARY 1937-1947

During the ten year period after the opening of its new library building, i.e., 1937-1947, the TCPL, which was then known as the New Philadelphia School District Public Library (NPSDPL), experienced many changes. Historical trends, i.e., the Great Depression and World War II, affected the library's building, budget, holdings, circulation, staff, and services. In addition, various directors influenced the library's services during this period.

Building

After opening its new facility in February of 1937, the NPSDPL was ". . . greatly concerned with the problem of securing adequate funds for the furnishing of the new building."[17] The library was fortunate in receiving a number of private donations to use for this purpose. For example, nearly $2,000 was raised by the local

businessmen's drive, and alumni of New Philadelphia's High School contributed over $3,000 to the building project.[18] This money was used to purchase window screens, blinds,[19] and floor and table lamps.[20] These lamps were needed because the light from the building's hanging chandoliers was found to be too dim.[21] In addition, the City's garden club funded the landscaping of the new facility, and the C.W. Burry Company donated the cost of recovering the floor in the adult department, i.e., $1,243.50.[22] However, the largest gift received by the library was that of Francis Price, a wealthy native of New Philadelphia. Upon learning of the library's building project, he donated $3,500 to fully equip the adult reading room. The only condition Mr. Price placed on his donation was that the library agree to dedicate its adult reading area to the memory of his deceased parents.[23] The NPSDPL was happy to comply with this request, and on February 18, 1937, the library's board (1) drafted a resolution thanking Francis Price for his generosity, and (2) ordered that a bronze plaque naming the adult area of the library the "Price Memorial Room" be purchased.[24] Francis Price was residing in Chicago at the time of the building project, and died on June 21, 1938, without ever having seen ". . . the beautiful memorial reading room made possible by his generous gift."[25]

Budget

Throughout the last years of the Depression and World War II the library's budget was unpredictable (see APPENDIX A). For example, in 1937 the budget stood at $19,182.13.[26] It declined slightly in both 1938 and 1939, and then dropped off sharply to a

level of $12,854.52 in 1940.[27] The library's budget then increased to $19,978.13 by 1943,[28] and for the remainder of the war held steady at around the $15,000 level.[29] It is possible that the reason the library's budget reached such a high level right after the building project was because it had not yet spent all of the money it received from a $12,000 bond issue which was passed in 1934 for this project,[30] and a $25,781 Public Works Administration (PWA) construction grant.[31] (The PWA was a federal government agency which funded the construction of libraries, stadiums, bridges, etc., during the Great Depression.)[32] In addition, because the NPSDPL received most of its funding from local taxes,[33] budget increases in 1942 and 1943 may have resulted from an increase in the county's industrial tax base during the war. The fact that the library's budget held steady during the last three years of the war may also be attributed to improved financial conditions in the county.

The TCLES, which received most of its funding from state and local taxes, had a budget of just over $5,000 throughout the war (see APPENDIX B).[34] The financial stability enjoyed by this institution may also be attributed to the state's improved war time economy.

Holdings and Circulation

The NPSDPL's holdings increased by several hundred volumes each year between 1937 and 1942,[35] but held steady at around 30,000 volumes during the war (see APPENDIX A).[36] It is likely that the library did not purchase large numbers of books during the war

because fewer of the country's resources were being used for book production, and the library's budget could not support increases in book purchasing. In addition, the NPSDPL's circulation experienced severe decreases each year between 1939 and 1947 (see APPENDIX A).[37] Gas rationing may have contributed to this trend. In 1943, the library's director, Evangelyn Fondell, blamed ". . . the temporary discontinuance of hospital book service due to a lack of proper equipment,"[38] and the creation that year of an independent high school library, for losses in circulation.[39] Also, just prior to the war, the library director noted an increase in the lending of adult nonfiction books, particularly "how-to" books, and stated that there was less interest in fiction as ". . . more and more people [were] turning from recreational to informational reading . . ." during the Depression.[40] However, in 1941, an increase in "lighter reading" was discovered as the U.S. braced to enter World War II.[41]

The holdings of the TCLES, which stood at 13,762 volumes in 1942, inched up slowly during the war, and by 1945 had reached a level of 15,060 (see APPENDIX B).[42] Much of this increase can be attributed to the fact that the TCLES received collections of books from the State Library of Ohio and the NPSDPL, and increased funding from the State Aid Commission during the war.[43] In addition, a loss in circulation throughout the war years may have been caused by the lack of a permanent head from 1942-1945,[44] the loss of government paid workers during the war,[45] and, as was reasoned by the head of the TCLES in 1943, ". . . the many war jobs and activities

taking people to the cities . . . ."[46]

By 1944, the TCLES had branches in the cities of Tuscarawas, Strasburg, Mineral City, and Bolivar, and was providing book collections for seven book stations and ninety-nine classrooms.[47] The branches were sponsored and maintained by their respective communities. However, the TCLES provided each branch with a librarian and a collection of books.[48]

Staff

The NPSDPL had three directors between 1937 and 1941 (see APPENDIX D). Helen Olmstead resigned as library director in 1939 and was replaced by Mildred Mercier, and Clara Schauffler, the library's assistant director, became acting director in 1941 when Miss Mercier resigned.[49] The library's director from 1942-1945 was Evangelyn Fondell. Although the library was plagued by staff resignations and budget decreases during the war, Miss Fondell was able to maintain basic library services, i.e., circulation, reference, and reader's advisory service, to the public.[50] In addition, because she emphasized book mending throughout the war, Miss Fondell can also be credited with preventing severe decreases in holdings during this period.[51]

From 1937-1941, the NPSDPL operated with a paid staff of nine, i.e., a head librarian, an assistant librarian, a children's librarian, two general assistants, a janitor, and a part-time page.[52] However, it received additional help from three Work Projects

Administration (WPA) workers,[53] and seven National Youth Administration (NYA) assistants.[54] (The WPA was a federal government agency which hired adults to work for public service agencies, and on local construction, literary, and art projects, during the Great Depression.[55] The NYA was a United States government agency which provided clerical jobs in public institutions for youths aged sixteen to twenty-five from 1935-1943.)[56] During the war, the library lost all of its government workers, and, as has been previously mentioned, experienced several resignations.[57] Although there is no evidence to suggest that these resignations were caused by the war (most cited marriage as their reason for leaving), one staff member left because of her "husband's employment."[58] Thus, well paying factory jobs may have enticed some employees and/or their husbands to move to larger cities. The loss of WPA and NYA assistance affected the amount of typing, cross referencing, book mending, and general cleaning done at the library.[59] The lack of a permanent head in the children's department during the war severely affected the number of story hours and summer reading programs offered by the NPSDPL. For example, story hours were only held for a total of twelve months from 1942-1944,[60] and the library was not able to sponsor its annual summer reading program in 1944.[61]

While the library's services were being adversely affected, salaries also came under pressure. For example, statistics compiled by the State Library of Ohio in 1940 appeared to show that the NPSDPL was spending the same amount of money on salaries as other public libraries in the state, but that its staff was

underpaid.[62] The library's board of trustees tentatively concluded from this report that the library had too many employees, and should consider operating with a reduced staff. However, the board felt that other factors might have a great bearing on a proper conclusion.[63]

The TCLES was headed by Kathryn Sharp from its inception in 1936 until 1942. Miss Sharp was committed to rural library service, and during her tenure established three branches and six book stations in outlying areas of the county, and provided classroom collections for ". . . most of the county rural schools . . . ."[64] In addition, because of her emphasis on book purchasing and mending,[65] the TCLES posted substantial increases in holdings and circulation throughout the Great Depression.[66]

The TCLES was also plagued by resignations throughout the war. For example, it lost two department heads and three branch heads from 1943-1945.[67] Although the library had little difficulty replacing its branch heads, whose resignations had been caused by illness and/or retirement,[68] it had a much harder time finding and keeping a head librarian. Both department heads cited marriage as their reason for leaving.[69] However, long hours, low pay, and a lack of support staff (all three of the library's WPA workers were lost in December of 1942) may have contributed to these resignations.[70] After each of these resignations, the NPSDPL appointed its children's librarian as acting head of the TCLES so that library service to outlying areas of the county could be maintained.[71]

Services

From 1937-1942, the NPSDPL provided the following types of services for adults: (1) Reference,[72] (2) reader's advisory service,[73] (3) lectures,[74] (4) book exhibits,[75] (5) literary study groups,[76] and (6) a program in which members of the community reviewed new books.[77] In addition, the library served children and young adults by providing book collections for the local schools,[78] story hours and summer reading clubs,[79] and ". . . instruction in the use of the library and care of books . . . ."[80] Book collections were also provided for the local hospital and the county home.[81] During this period, the library was especially proud of its reader's advisory service. For example, in 1939, the head librarian stated: "No records can be kept of the thousands of questions answered and help given to study clubs, program committees, teachers and other individuals and groups who ask for assistance in their reading problems."[82] However, the library was also pleased about the number of ". . . literary, musical and dramatic functions . . ."[83] that were held in its auditorium monthly by various community groups. The library's poor financial condition during this period is evidenced by the fact that it charged nonprofit groups $5.00 and clubs which sponsored "entertainments for profit" $10.00 to use the auditorium.[84]

As has been previously mentioned, children's services were curtailed during the war. Also, because adult programming is rarely discussed in the librarian's monthly reports during this period, the writer suspects that many services to adults were abandoned

until the end of the war. Low attendance at library programs, e.g., the observance of "Book Week" in 1942 (which may have been caused by gas rationing), may have caused the the NPSDPL to discontinue much of its adult programming.[85]

Throughout World War II, the library showed its support for its country in three ways: (1) It cooperated with the TCLES and other community agencies in two book drives for U.S. servicemen. These so called "Victory Book Campaigns" netted more than 870 books;[86] (2) It provided such names as "Reader's Auxiliary Corps,"[87] "Victory Garden Reading Club,"[88] and "Young American Readers,"[89] for its children's summer reading clubs; and (3) It sent its staff members to district meetings of the Ohio Library Association so that they could learn how to serve patrons better during the war.[90]

As has been previously mentioned, the TCLES maintained book service to the county through its various branches, book stations, and school collections throughout the war. However, its circulation was adversely affected by the creation of an independent high school library in 1943 (the TCLES took over the provision of books to local classrooms and the New Philadelphia High School Library from the NPSDPL in 1938).[91] The TCLES participated in the war effort by helping with the "Victory Book Campaigns,"[92] opening the Tuscarawas branch for first aid classes one night per week,[93] and allowing the Strasburg branch to be used as a center for civilian defense.[94]

CHAPTER 3

THE NEW PHILADELPHIA--TUSCARAWAS COUNTY DISTRICT LIBRARY 1948-1960

When it was reorganized as a County District library in 1948, the NPSDPL changed its name to the New Philadelphia--Tuscarawas County District Library (NPTCDL).[95] The library applied for County District status because it wanted to "expand and receive all the benefits [of] a County District set-up . . . ,"[96] such as, increased funding. The reasons why the library was granted more money under County District reorganization remain unclear. In 1949, the library purchased a bookmobile, and the TCLES became the main library's Extension Department.[97] The Extension Department was largely responsible for circulation increases at the NPTCDL during the 1950s because it was able to reach more of the county's schools and outlying areas than ever before with bookmobile service.[98] Factors such as the NPTCDL's directors, post World War II financial difficulties, the Korean War, and television also affected library services from 1948-1960.

Building

In 1949, the library's building was twelve years old, and in need of various repairs. For example, the roof had begun to leak, and plaster was falling from the ceiling.[99] These problems may have resulted from the library's decision, in 1935, to forego the addition of roof drains, and install four inch rather than six inch sewer pipe, in order to save $309 in building costs.[100] Also, in its apparent haste to meet the building completion deadline set

by the PWA, the library had neglected to install expansion loops in the building's steam pipes. Thus, all of these pipes were leaking and in need of repair.[101] The NPTCDL had its steam pipes repaired during the 1950s, but there is no evidence to suggest that the library tried to repair its leaking roof during this decade.

The library undertook construction of a bookmobile garage in 1952.[102] Most of this project was financed with $21,000 the library had received from the estate of the late Emma Ream, a prominent citizen of New Philadelphia.[103] For several months during 1950 and 1951, it appeared that the library might not receive this bequest because Mrs. Ream's heirs contested her will in court, stating that it was a mutilated document which had been found ". . . lying loosely among Mrs. Ream's papers . . . ,"[104] with two inches cut away from the bottom of its third page.[105] However, in April of 1951, a judge ruled that Mrs. Ream's will was valid,[106] and a year later, construction of the library's bookmobile garage was begun.[107] The garage was completed in July of 1953, and the librarian noted that the garage's built-in bookroom was a "great help" because traveling collections could now ". . . be shelved when the bookmobile was off the road."[108]

Budget

In 1948, the library's budget stood at $31,418.71, and by 1957 had increased to more than three times this level, i.e., $94,375.36 (see APPENDIX C).[109] Budget increases during the 1950s may have resulted from an improvement in the county's industrial

tax base during and after the Korean War. Although the library received more money during the 1950s than it did during World War II, it faced financial problems throughout this period because it had to purchase more up-to-date fiction and nonfiction books for patrons, and spend more money on staff and materials for the bookmobile.[110] The severity of the library's fiscal problems during the 1950s is evidenced by the fact that it (1) could not pay several of its bills in 1954, and had to carry them over into 1955, (2) had to borrow over $1,000 in May of 1955 to meet salaries, and (3) took the last $4,000 out of its bookmobile depreciation savings account in 1955 in order to pay ". . . book, bindery and building repair bills carried over from 1954 . . . ."[111] The NPTCDL was not able to reestablish its Bookmobile Depreciation Fund until 1957, when an increase in intangibles tax funding enabled the library to appropriate $10,000 to this fund.[112]

Holdings and Circulation

The library's holdings increased every year between 1948 and 1960 (see APPENDIX C). For example, its collection consisted of 47,978 books in 1948.[113] More than 20,000 volumes were added between 1948 and 1955,[114] and by 1960, the library's total holdings stood at 75,015.[115] As has been previously mentioned, the NPTCDL increased its book stock during the 1950s in an effort to update its collection which had suffered because of a lack of book purchasing during World War II.[116] The Extension Department was especially committed to this goal, and in 1959, the Extension Librarian Alice Kopp stated: "The need for more books continues

unabated. Not only are we faced with increased school enrollment but we must meet the varied needs for information and recreational reading of high school students and adults."[117]

The NPTCDL's circulation was erratic from 1948-1954 (see APPENDIX C). Factors which may have contributed to this problem were (1) the creation of several independent school libraries in the early 1950s, (2) the library's decision to rotate school collections once before returning them to the main building for a circulation count,[118] and (3) the impact of television on the reading habits of library patrons. For example, in 1953, the librarian blamed a loss in juvenile circulation on ". . . the effect of television upon immature minds."[119] The NPTCDL attempted to lessen the impact of television on reading and circulation throughout the 1950s by weeding its main, bookmobile, and branch collections, buying new books, and borrowing large book collections from the State Library of Ohio.[120] This strategy appears to have worked because the library's circulation increased each year between 1955 and 1960.[121] In addition, former Children's Librarian Ruth Gibson noted that television had a positive impact on library circulation during the late 1950s because people began borrowing books in order to learn more about the subjects they saw presented on television programs.[122] Also, as has been previously mentioned, increased circulation at the library during the latter half of the 1950s was due in large part to the efforts of the Extension Department. Fifty-five percent of the books circulated by the library between 1955 and 1960 were checked out via the bookmobile, the branch

libraries, and school collections.[123]

Staff

Between 1948 and 1960, the NPTCDL had two directors (see APPENDIX D). Phyllis Hansberger was the library's director from 1948-1952. She oversaw the NPSDPL's reorganization as a County District library in 1948,[124] and implemented bookmobile service in 1949.[125] Also, because of her desire to provide increased service to ouylying areas of Tuscarawas County, Miss Hansberger used the extra money that resulted from the library's reorganization as a County District library to hire more staff for, and increase the holdings of, the Extension Department.[126] In addition, Miss Hansberger (1) developed new programs for adults and children, e.g., film programs and book discussion groups,[127] and (2) increased the visibility of the library by presenting book reviews over the radio and in the local newspaper.[128]

When Phyllis Hansberger resigned from the library to become State Library Organizer in September of 1952, she was replaced by the NPTCDL's Children's Librarian, Lillian Hinds.[129] Mrs. Hinds served as the library's director from 1952-1963, and throughout this period worked to upgrade and increase the main library's book collection which had suffered because of a lack of book purchasing during World War II.[130] Because of her efforts, the NPTCDL's holdings and circulation, which stood at 62,402 and 228,130 respectively in 1953, increased to 75,015 and 352,407 respectively by 1960.[131] In addition, Mrs. Hinds can be credited with continuing

the programs that were begun by Miss Hansberger,[132] and maintaining bookmobile service throughout the 1950s despite staff shortages.[133]

Throughout the 1950s, the library's main building, bookmobile, and branches were operated by approximately twenty-two employees (excluding pages), or the equivalent of eleven and one half full-time staff members.[134] Also, between 1948 and 1960 the library increased its number of part-time pages from three to seven.[135] Possible reasons for this increase were the need to (1) shelve and maintain the growing book collections of the main library and the bookmobile, (2) clean, check, and shelve the library's increasing number of 16mm films and phonograph records, and (3) sort and shelve the various book collections that were provided to the county's schools.[136]

From 1948-1960, the NPTCDL was ". . . greatly crippled by staff shortages . . . ."[137] For example, only four staff members worked for the library continuously during this period.[138] Staff losses were most keenly felt in the Extension Department, which had six different department heads between 1948 and 1960, and no department head in 1951 or 1953.[139] In addition, this department experienced complete staff turnovers in both 1954 and 1955.[140] The library's Board of Trustees suspected that the various department heads who left the Extension Department did so because of low pay.[141] Thus, in 1955, the board ". . . decided to combine the position of assistant and [extension] librarian so that a larger salary

could be offered to attract a librarian with a degree and experience."[142] The board may also have believed that stable leadership in the Extension Department would result in fewer staff resignations from this department.

The board's strategy appears to have worked because, in 1956, long time NPTCDL employee Alice Kopp returned to the library after a one year absence to assume leadership of the Extension Department.[143] Miss Kopp, who had completed ". . . her thirty hours of library work with honors . . ." at Syracuse University in 1951,[144] remained in this position through 1961,[145] and did ". . . an excellent job of building up the county book collection which [had] suffered through a constant change of [extension] librarians."[146] Also, during Miss Kopp's tenure, there were fewer staff changes in the Extension Department, and the department's circulation was greatly increased.[147]

Services

During the 1950s, the NPTCDL provided a variety of new programs and services for its patrons. For example, as has been previously mentioned, the library had begun to develop collections of classical records and educational and popular films. These media, along with educational filmstrips, were heavily used by the county's schools.[148] In addition, the library's monthly film programs for children were very popular, and brought ". . . record crowds [to the library] on Saturday mornings . . . ."[149]

The library also (1) sponsored the very active "Zest for Life Library Club" (for patrons over sixty-five), which held parties, and invited groups and individuals from the community to present book talks and plays at the library,[150] (2) co-sponsored a "Great Books Discussion Group" with the nearby Dover Public Library, and (3) presented weekly book reviews on the local radio station and in New Philadelphia's local newspaper, the Daily Times.[151] These book reviews were well received by the community, and brought more patrons to the library.[152]

CHAPTER 4
CONCLUSION

The library experienced substantial growth throughout the 1930s and the Great Depression. Much of the credit for this growth belongs to the library's director, Helen Hoover Olmstead (1929-1939), who worked successfully for the erection of a new main library, instituted library instruction and literary programs, and posted increases in the library's holdings holdings and circulation of 69% and 64% respectively during her tenure.

The growth experienced by the library during the 1930s was halted by the onset of World War II. For example, a loss of patronage, which was caused by people moving to larger areas for factory jobs, gas rationing, and a change in reading habits during the war caused the abandonment of several library programs, and created a 29% decrease in the library's circulation between 1942

and 1946. In addition, the library was plagued by resignations during the war, as staff members left to be married and/or followed their husbands to larger cities because of war time employment opportunities. The library also experienced financial problems throughout the war, and was unable to increase its collection.

Between 1948 and 1960, factors such as the library's reorganization as a County District library in 1948, and the development of goals, helped the library to recover from the instability it had experienced during World War II. For example, both of the library's directors between 1948 and 1960, i.e., Phyllis Hansberger (1948-1952), and Lillian Hinds (1952-1963), shared common goals for the library: (1) To upgrade and increase the library's book collection, which had been neglected during the war, (2) to hire more staff for the main library and the bookmobile, (3) to provide new programs and services for adults and children, and (4) to expand rural bookmobile service (the TCLES became the main library's Extension Department in 1948, and the library began providing bookmobile service to outlying areas of the county in 1949). Miss Hansberger and Mrs. Hinds used the additional money the library received because of its change to County District status to work toward these goals, and because of their efforts, the library's holdings and circulation increased 56% and 33% respectively between 1948 and 1960 (the Extension Department was largely responsible for circulation increases at the library during this period), more staff members were hired, new programs for adults and children were begun, and bookmobile service was expanded.

The library enjoyed greater stability throughout the 1950s than it did during World War II. However, it continued to be plagued by resignations and financial difficulties. For example, the library's funding, which had increased because of County District reorganization, barely kept pace with expenses for staff, books, building repairs, and bookmobile maintenance during this decade. In addition, the library experienced severe staff shortages in the Extension Department until 1956, when stable leadership in this department resulted in fewer staff resignations.

As can be seen from the foregoing, 1937-1960 was a period of enormous growth and change at the Tuscarawas County Public Library. During this twenty-three year span, the library's staff more than doubled, its budget increased 344%, and its holdings and circulation increased 176% and 63% respectively. Also, because the library experienced substantial growth and stability from 1948-1960, and established specific goals for the future during the 1950s, it was prepared to provide library service to the people of Tuscarawas County during the 1960s.

In addition, because the primary focus of this research paper has been on the development of the main library, future researchers may wish to undertake a more in depth analysis of the Extension Department, from its inception as the Tuscarawas County Library Extension Service, in order to discover what impact this agency had on the growth and development of the main library.

APPENDIX A

Holdings, Circulation, and Budget
of the New Philadelphia School District
Public Library 1937-1947

YEAR	HOLDINGS	CIRCULATION	BUDGET
1937	27,204	215,606	$19,182.38
1938	28,633	230,472	$18,383.98
1939	29,513	222,773	$16,056.46
1940	29,332	185,968	$12,854.52
1941	31,131	185,378	$16,880.64
1942	31,621	157,821	$17,292.56
1943	30,192	131,692	$19,978.13
1944	30,688	121,075	$15,426.78
1945	30,902	120,714	$15,015.97
1946	30,721	111,404	$15,105.20
1947	31,423	106,213	$23,881.97

APPENDIX B

Holdings, Circulation, and Budget of the Tuscarawas County Library Extension Service 1936-1947

YEAR	HOLDINGS	CIRCULATION	BUDGET
1936	NA	NA	$2,500.00
1937	NA	NA	$4,309.67
1938	7,022	74,235	$6,998.63
1939	9,299	105,980	$4,455.48
1940	10,555	106,481	$4,358.38
1941	12,952	113,208	$5,667.72
1942	13,762	114,424	$5,393.38
1943	13,957	103,680	$5,662.42
1944	14,511	105,744	$5,247.72
1945	15,060	117,349	$6,486.42
1946	15,151	117,264	$8,358.67
1947	16,384	141,947	$11,593.04

APPENDIX C

Holdings, Circulation, and Budget of the New Philadelphia--Tuscarawas County District Library 1948-1960

YEAR	HOLDINGS	CIRCULATION	BUDGET
1948	47,978	264,419	$31,418.71
1949	48,270	217,349	$47,353.57
1950	52,519	223,097	$50,232.95
1951	56,871	265,743	$57,528.03
1952	60,233	287,100	$61,568.70
1953	62,402	228,130	$68,037.36
1954	65,869	238,000	$59,967.29
1955	68,481	241,985	$63,309.28
1956	69,750	252,409	$80,626.72
1957	70,966	290,273	$94,375.36
1958	72,613	328,981	$77,140.68
1959	74,362	337,341	$78,822.30
1960	75,015	352,407	$85,246.34

APPENDIX D

Directors of the Tuscarawas County Public Library 1937-1960

YEAR	DIRECTOR
1937	Helen Olmstead (became Director in 1929)
1938	" "
1939	" "
1940	Mildred Mercier
1941	Clara Schauffler (acting)
1942	Evangelyn Fondell
1943	" "
1944	" "
1945	" "
1946	Clara Schauffler (acting)
1947	Almeda Leake
1948	Phyllis Hansberger
1949	" "
1950	" "
1951	" "
1952	Lillian Hinds (resigned in 1963)
1953	" "
1954	" "
1955	" "
1956	" "
1957	" "
1958	" "
1959	" "
1960	"33 "

APPENDIX E

Interview Schedule

1. How were the library's services affected by the opening of a new facility in 1937?

2. Did the library's mission and/or services change after World War II? If so, was the war responsible for these changes?

3. Why do you think the library experienced financial problems after World War II?

4. How were the library's services affected by post-World War II financial problems?

5. How did the library's reorganization as a County District library in 1948 impact on library services?

6. How did the adoption of bookmobile service in 1949 affect the library's operations?

7. What types of materials did the library select during the 1940s and 1950s? Why?

8. Were certain types of books and/or materials excluded from the collection during the 1940s and 1950s? If so, what were they, and why were they excluded?

9. In what ways, if any, was the library affected by new technologies during the 1940s and 1950s?

10. What types of services and programs did the library develop during the 1940s and 1950s?

11. Were library services and/or programs affected by the Korean War? If so, in what way(s)?

12. How did publicity efforts during the 1940s and 1950s impact on library use?

13. Did competitive interests, e.g., television, impact on library use during the 1950s?

14. Were there any forces within, or independent of, the library that helped to shape its operations and services during the 1940s and 1950s? If so, what were these forces, and what effect(s) did they have on library services?

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